



## REMOVAL

# Mansell Field at Gallows Hill Site Salem, MA

U.S. EPA | HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAM AT EPA NEW ENGLAND

## THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND REMOVAL PROGRAM

*responds to chemical, biological and radiological releases and large-scale national emergencies, including homeland security incidents. EPA conducts short term cleanups in the removal program when necessary to protect human health and the environment by either funding response actions directly or overseeing and enforcing actions conducted by potentially responsible parties.*



## SITE HISTORY

This site is in a residential area and includes both developed and undeveloped areas. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), along with the City of Salem, is removing contaminated soil on Mansell field located in Gallows Hill Park. Contamination on this property consists of elevated levels of arsenic and is presumed to have originated from former Tannery operations on the site, long before it was redeveloped.

## BACKGROUND

During testing being conducted in preparation for planned improvements at Salem's Gallows Hill Park, the City of Salem found that soil samples taken on a portion of the soccer field area and abutting residential properties showed elevated arsenic levels. From October 2019 – to August 2020 EPA removed contaminated soil on three residential properties. EPA conducted air monitoring during this removal process. In 2019 the City of Salem contacted EPA to also help in removing contaminated soil on Mansell Field, which has been closed to the public since 2018. The EPA negotiated a workshare agreement with the City where each party is responsible for a portion of the work. EPA mobilized to the site in May 2023 and excavated about 3,500 tons of soil.

## WHAT RESIDENTS SHOULD EXPECT

Soil being removed from the field is being staged on site before it is shipped to an appropriate landfill. There is currently a national issue related to disposal of contaminated soil, however EPA is currently working on securing a contract for the transportation and disposal of soil and will keep residents apprised of the status of disposal. During prior excavations, dust suppression techniques were used to keep any contaminated soil from migrating off-site via dust. EPA also used a compound to stabilize the soil

## KEY CONTACTS:

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while it's being stockpiled. This stabilization of the soil ensures there is no risk of contamination from the piles. Contaminated soil being staged will be covered, and access will be restricted to the area where it is being staged. The staging area will also ensure there is safe access to residential areas for cars and pedestrians.

## **NEXT STEPS**

Upon completion of the EPA's work, the City will commence its portion of the project per its workshare agreement with the EPA. This will include the remaining soil remediation and restoration of Mansell Field to public parkland. The timing of this work is contingent on the EPA securing a disposal facility for the stockpiled soils so that the City can complete a new topographical survey upon which it will develop design plans this winter. The City anticipates publicly bidding this work in spring 2024 to hire a contractor who will undertake the remediation and restoration throughout 2024, with final acceptance of the new lawn in early summer of 2025. The schedule is subject to change based on the actual timing of the removal of the EPA's stockpiles and any unforeseen circumstances.

The City of Salem is maintaining a project webpage at [saalem.com/mansellfield](https://saalem.com/mansellfield)